

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SECURITY INFORMATION

COUNTRY	East Germany	REPORT		25X1
SUBJECT	1. Transfer of Responsibilities from the Ministry for Construction to the Ministry of the Interior	DATE DISTR.	21 May 1953	
	2. Shortage of Steel for Military Production	NO. OF PAGES	2	
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Ministry of the Interior

1. A conference took place on 14 February to determine the transfer of the Berlin planning sections, at present part of the Ministry for Construction, to the Ministry of the Interior. State Secretary Wilhelm Mayer was in the chair, deputizing for the Minister of the Interior, Willi Stoph. Others present were Kurt Krause, Josef Mueller, Mundt (fnu), Linneke (fnu), Petruschke (fnu), (personnel chief in the planning sections).
2. State Secretary Mayer, who is responsible for the building of installations of the national armed services, is anxious that the planning sections pass to his immediate control in the Ministry of the Interior. The sections are also to be so politically "cleansed" that they will be suitable to take on the responsibility for constructions "of the first importance". State Secretary Mayer suggested that the changes be made beginning from the top. The course of the discussion showed that about 70% of the existing capacity was to be turned over to construction of the type specified, i.e. armed services installations, while the remaining 30% would carry out purely civil work.
3. Both the transfer of responsibilities and the proposed political "cleansing" are regarded as having military significance because of the importance that the responsible authorities in the Ministry of the Interior attribute to it; moreover, the highest authorities are making it very clear that target dates must be met.
4. At a meeting on 18 February attended by Koslowski (fnu) of the State Planning Commission, Riebe (fnu), of the State Planning Commission, and Mundt (fnu) of the Hauptabteilung Investition, it was agreed that the previously approved financial plans for building construction for 1953 and 1954 should be scrapped.

25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

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to meet demands to concentrate on rearmament. Purely civil construction was to be limited to the very minimum. A big effort was to be made to develop construction of installations for the East German armed forces as well as for the Red Army.

5. Personnel of all Bau Unionen are to be pruned in order to strengthen Bau Union North, Northeast, Coastal and South. The same principle is to be applied to all planning sections, which must allocate engineers and technical specialists on a large scale to the so-called services Bau Unionen.
6. While all the decisions described in the foregoing paragraphs have been approved in general, a number of details await the decision of the Minister of the Interior, Willi Stoph.

Shortages of Steel for Essential Military Production

7. A conference took place on 11 February 1953 to discuss means of improving the very unsatisfactory progress in efforts to improve the inadequate supply situation of raw materials such as steel. Those present were Alder, who was in the chair, Walter Pisternik, Linneke (fnu), Josef Mueller, and Mundt (fnu).
8. It was established that planning (Projektierung) for EKO, Fuerstenberg, was proceeding so slowly that the capacity of EKO did not fulfill the requirements of Doehlen Edelstahlwerk. It was, therefore, essential to raise the capacity of EKO to a higher level at the earliest possible moment since the entire production of the Fuerstenberg steel works goes to Doehlen.

1. Comment: this steel is utilized in the production of APVs. This means infantry and tank weapons are under construction in East Germany.

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